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**INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

**RREiS RESEARCH SURVEY FOR STUDENTS**

**(PLAIN LANGUAGE STATEMENT)**

**Department of Education and training reference:** 2015\_002645

Dear Parent/Carer,

With support from the Department of Education and Training, Our Watch is working with schools to implement a holistic approach that builds awareness and embeds a culture of equality and respect among students, teachers and school communities. This will include the delivery of the new Department of Education and Training curriculum guidance materials, [Building Respectful Relationships: Stepping Out against Gender-Based Violence](https://fuse.education.vic.gov.au/pages/View.aspx?pin=HTWGQ7" \t "_blank). Your child’s school is one of several secondary schools around Victoria that is participating in this project.

Our Watch is working with Deakin University to understandstudent’s experience of the Respectful Relationships Education in Schools (RREiS) project and any impacts on their knowledge, attitudes and skills. The data from the RREiS project will increase our understanding of how young people respond and will inform future delivery of this work.

A short research survey has been constructed to gather data. This contains questions about:

* Students’ views on respectful relationships, gender and gender based violence
* Student’s confidence around asserting themselves in relationships
* Demographic information (participants’ age, gender, current school, year level). No identifying information will be collected from the survey.

The survey uses similar terminology and language to that used in your child’s classes. The survey should take about 15-20 minutes to complete and will distributed by their teachers during class time.

Later this year (Term 3, 2015) your child may be invited to participate in a focus group to explore their experience of the RREiS project in more detail. If your child is selected to take part in the focus group, the research team will provide you with another information statement and consent form.

**Selection of participants**

Gisborne Secondary College has decided to participate in this research survey. The school leadership team will be provided with a copy of the overall results of their student’s results. This does **not** include any information that could identify which students have completed the survey or what they have said in their answers. Data from all the participating schools will be used by Our Watch to report on the impacts of the RREIS project.

The school has decided to employ an opt-out approach to consent in line with their normal school procedures. If you decide that you **do not** wish your child to participate in this research survey or if you require any additional information please contact Mrs Tate within two weeks of the date you receive this information.

Please keep this Plain Language Statement as a record.

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**Research Withdrawal Form**

*(To be used for parents/carers who wish to* ***withdraw*** *their children from participating in the research survey)*

**Project Title:** Evaluation of Respectful Relationships Education in Schools (RREiS)

**Department of Education and Training reference:** 2015\_002645

I hereby wish to WITHDRAW my consent for my son/daughter to participate in the above research project and understand that such withdrawal WILL NOT jeopardise my relationship with either the School or with Deakin University.

Parent/Carers name (printed) ……..………………………………………………….

Signature ………………………………………………………………. Date ……………………

**Please mail or email this form to the Principal.**